

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:284
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008
WARNINGS ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS
Appadurai Shri M.;Shivanna Shri M

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is mandatory for the tobacco products to carry a health warning alongwith a logo of danger sign on the exterior of the packings;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some products of tobacco have been exempted from this legal requirement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to bring all tobacco products under this regulation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 284 FOR 19TH MARCH, 2008

The Section 8 of the 'The Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003' provides for specified warnings on every package of cigarette or any tobacco products. The legal provisions envisage specified health warnings shall be:

- a) Legible and prominent.
- b) Conspicuous as to size and colour.

The Cigarette and other Tobacco Products (Packaging and labeling) rules, 2006 was notified on 5th July, 2006, and the provisions were to come into effect on 1st February, 2007. An amendment of the said Act and the rules was carried out vide notification G.S.R. 633 (E) dated 29.09.07 whereby the, mandatory depiction of skull and bone was made optional and the rules were revised accordingly. It has been decided by the Government to further modify the rules, keeping in view the larger public interest. The revised rules have been notified on 16th March, 2008. The decision regarding the date of implementation of the rules is pending as matter is subjudice in the Hon'ble Shimla High Court and will be decided during the next date of hearing i.e. 24th March, 2008.